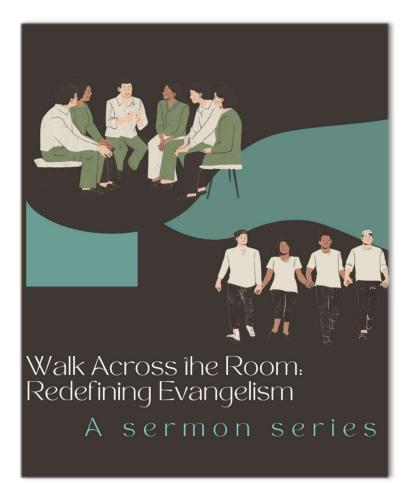


An Open and Affirming Congregation of The United Church of Christ



Order of Worship for June 9, 10:00 am

Welcome to Worship at Center Church! We are delighted that you are with us today.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Please rise in body or spirit.

CHIMES

PRELUDE Shall We Gather at the River

arr. L. Goss

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Gather to give thanks with your whole heart. Rejoice in God's love and faithfulness.

All: We bow down, for this is God's holy temple. We pour out our thanks in songs of praise. One: God answers us when we call. Our Creator increases our strength of soul.

All: Great is the glory of our God! We rejoice in God's steadfast love.

One: Wait for God, and hope in God's Word. Open your hearts to the holy presence in our midst.

All: Our ears are attentive to the voice of God. We open our lives to God's direction.

INVOCATION

Our souls wait for you, O God. Our ears are attentive to your words. We hope for a clear understanding of your will for us. Let this time of meeting draw us together in unity, with a sense of direction and purpose for our church and our individual lives. Renew us within so that nothing we face around us can undermine our faith or cause us to despair. Claim us all as siblings of Jesus Christ, and help us to reflect this kinship in all we do or say. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: NCH 393 Blest Be the Tie That Binds DENNIS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CLASSES Congregation sings: Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja (3X) Halleluja! Hal-le-lu-ja!

Caribbean Melody

SCRIPTURE: Mark 3: 7 -12; 20 - 21 (NRSV); 1 Peter 4: 8 - 10 (NRSV)

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst

Walk Across the Room, Part 2: Let's Go Crazy! A Call to Radical Hospitality and Fellowship in the House of God

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Bind Us Together Bob Gillman Bind us together, Lord. Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord. Bind us together. Bind us together in love. There is only one God, there is only one King. There is only one body, that is why we sing. PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER INVITATION TO OFFERING D. Schutte OFFERTORY Here I am, Lord Andrea Olsen, soloist *DOXOLOGY: Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. ***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *CLOSING SONG I Am a Friend of God M. Gungor/I. Houghton I am a friend of God, I am a friend of God, I am a friend of God, you call me friend (2X). God Almighty, Lord of Glory, You have called me friend (2X). We all are friends of God, We all are friends of God, We all are friends of God, you call me friend (2X). God Almighty, Lord of Glory, You have called me friend (2X).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

- One: God's grace has been poured out on us. We are invited to share it with more and more people.
- All: We seek to live so God's grace is evident. We will consult with God in our decision-making.
- One: Go into the world to serve, to the glory of God. May your thanksgiving increase day by day.
- All: Our praise will not cease when we leave this place. All the world is God's temple, a place to give thanks.
- One: We are siblings of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit has come among us and abides with us.
- All: We have good news to share, so we will do it! May our thanksgiving proclaim God's glory!
- One: Amen.
- All: Amen.

PIANO POSTLUDE Allegro Maestoso

G. F. Handel

Center Church News & Announcements

Subscribe to our E-News newsletter for up-to-date news and happenings at Center Church: <u>https://centerchurchhartford.org/</u>

https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/OzymYij/CenterChurch

And, don't forget to follow us on FB!

FACEBOOK

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD

A member of the United Church of Christ (UCC) CENTER CHURCH, 60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103 Office Hours: Tuesday thru Thursday, 9:30am to 2:30pm Library Hours by Appointment P 860.249.5631 F 860.246.3915 www.centerchurchhartford.org

Senior Pastor: The Rev. Liza Arulampalam (ext. 202) Coordinator for Justice & Faith Formation Ministries: The Rev. Dr. Eric J. Hearst (ext. 209)

If you would like to meet with Pastor Liza, please schedule a time by sending her an email at pastor@cchartford.org

Director of Music/Organist: Robert F. Gilbert (ext. 204) Church Office Administrator: Steven Lewis (ext. 200) Bookkeeper: Brenda Russell (ext. 201) Sextons: Thomas St. Amant & Gilberto Mercado Meals Program Coordinator: Carrie Howe (ext 205) Nursery Care: Tina Franklin

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Would you like to learn more about Center Church? Email us at info@cchartford.org

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING Congregation. "We include into full participation in the life of this church persons of any age, race, economic status, gender, sexual orientation, marital status andphysical, emotional and mental capacity" (from the statement adopted October 23, 1994.) In recognition of the richness of backgrounds of our congregation, a **DIVERSITY OF** LANGUAGES will find expression in our worship services. Center Church offers an **OPEN COMMUNION**. Adults and children from all religious backgrounds are invited to partake. **TEXT ALERTS** To receive text alerts regarding church activities and cancellations, please text the word CENTER to (860) 300-3697. (Message and data rates may apply according to your data plan.)

FACEBOOK LIVE We livestream our worship services on Facebook each week, and your presence here constitutes your permission for your image to be shown. If you prefer not to be seen, speak with the minister or whoever is operating the phone up front to determine where a good seat might be to avoid the camera. Our viewership is growing and we are excited to welcome a congregation in cyberspace!

Church Information

ON STREET PARKING is available during Sunday Worship Services on Gold Street and on the west side of Lewis Street, and is FREE on Sundays. The church is maintaining our relationship with the Traveler's Garage which is temporarily closed due to Covid-19. Stay tuned as we partner with other garages in the area.

REST ROOMS are located in the basement of the Meeting House. Please use the stairs in the southeastcorner of the building. For safety, please have an adult accompany your child to the restroom.

CHURCH SCHOOL is held at the Church House (60 Gold Street) for preschool to 12th Grade. Children are to remain with their families in the Meeting House during worship until they depart for Church School following the Children's Moment. Please pick your child up promptly at 12:00pm. For their safety, childrenwill remain with their Church School instructor until an adult picks them up. Church School is not held during the Summer.

CHILDCARE and NURSERY care are provided by trained, capable, and nurturing staff and volunteers, and is available in the Meeting House basement for infants and toddlers (up to two years of age.) A nursery without staff is also located on the second floor of the Church House.

CURRENT SUNDAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES Announcements regarding AdultEducation classes are announced in our publications.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS to the sanctuary is via the lift outside at the south end of the portico. If possible, please call the church office in advance for assistance in using the lift.

The latest issue of **CENTER CHURCH** *E-NEWS* is available on our church website. If you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact us at <u>info@cchartford.org</u> / 860-249-5631